



**PATENT**

Case Docket No. CARMO.001A

Date: November 3, 2005

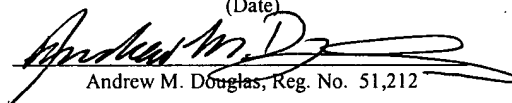
**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s) : Wayne Carmona  
Appl. No. : 10/630,132  
Filed : July 30, 2003  
For : FLEX GRIP FIXTURE CLAMP  
Group Art Unit : 3632  
Class/Sub-Class : 248-229140  
Examiner : Anita M. King

I hereby certify that this correspondence and all marked attachments are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Issue Fee, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on

November 3, 2005

(Date)

  
Andrew M. Douglas, Reg. No. 51,212


**TRANSMITTAL LETTER**

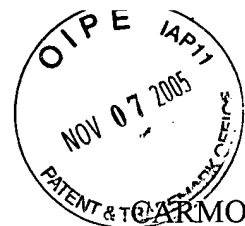
**MAIL STOP ISSUE FEE**  
**Commissioner for Patents**  
**P.O. Box 1450**  
**Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

Dear Sir:

Enclosed for filing is the Issue Fee for the above-identified application:

- (X) Form PTOL-85.
- (X) A check in the amount of \$1,030.00 to cover the issue fee, publication fee, and advanced order of copies is enclosed.
- (X) Comment On Statement Of Reasons For Allowance.
- (X) The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Account No. 11-1410.
- (X) Return prepaid postcard.

  
Andrew M. Douglas  
Registration No. 51,212  
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CARMO.001A

PATENT

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## CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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COMMENT ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**Mail Stop Amendment**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the allowance of this application.

In the Notice of Allowance, the Examiner states the primary reasons for the allowance of the claims in this application are the limitations of a flex grip fixture clamp "wherein a progressive support clamp is actuatable via a handle from an open position to a support member clamp position, the support member clamp position precluding movement of the fixture clamp with respect to a support member and allowing rotation of a ball, and wherein the progressive support clamp is further actuatable to a full clamp position, the full clamp position fixing the position of the ball." Notice of Allowance, P.2. The Examiner also states that these limitations are "essentially included in independent claims 1, 6, 7, 9, 11, and 17-21." Id.

Applicant disagrees with this statement to the extent there is any implication that the limitations quoted from the *Reasons For Allowance* are limitations of all of the claims. For example, this language does not appear in Claim 11, which recites a method for positioning an accessory, the method comprising:

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providing a flex grip fixture clamp comprising a progressive support clamp, a handle, an accessory clamp, and a ball joint that interconnects the progressive support clamp and the accessory clamp, the ball joint comprising a ball that is at least partially received by the progressive support clamp and a link member that extends to and is coupled with the accessory clamp;

coupling an accessory with the accessory clamp;

actuating the flex grip fixture clamp to an open position to enable the progressive support clamp to be coupled with a support member;

actuating the handle to actuate the flex grip fixture clamp to a support member clamp position, to clamp the support member without clamping the ball joint; and

actuating the handle to actuate the flex grip fixture clamp to a full clamp position, wherein the support member clamps the ball joint so that the position of the ball is fixed.

Additionally, Applicant disagrees with the *Reasons For Allowances* to the extent there is any implication that patentability rest on a single limitation or a subset of the limitation of a claim because it is the unique combination of limitations recited in each claim that makes the claims patentable.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: November 3, 2005

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